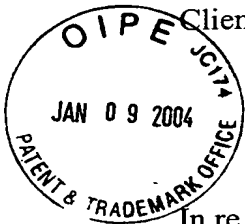


Attorney Docket: 021123-0278405

Client Reference: 990012 BT-B



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 3863

MOLENAAR et al.

Application No.: 09/852,157

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: May 10, 2001

Examiner: D. RAMIREZ

Title: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF L-AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION USING CORYNEFORM BACTERIA

January 9, 2003

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to an official action dated September 9, 2003, wherein the pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, and the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendments and remarks.